

## Preparing Queensland Pharmacists to Vaccinate – Australia's first Pharmacists Immunisation Pilot

Rosenthal M<sup>1</sup>, Deldot M<sup>1</sup>, Nissen LM<sup>2</sup>

1. *The Pharmaceutical Society of Australia, Queensland Branch, Brisbane, Australia*

2. *School of Clinical Sciences, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia*

### BACKGROUND

In November 2013, the Queensland Department of Health announced its intention to pilot pharmacists vaccination for influenza in the 2014 Flu season. The Pharmaceutical Society of Australia Queensland Branch was tasked with development of an appropriate training program for the pilot.

### AIM

To develop, implement and evaluate a training program for pharmacist vaccination relevant to Australian Pharmacist needs.

### METHOD

Two online content Modules were delivered to participants followed by a compulsory MCQ test. A face-to-face workshop was then undertaken including practical injection skills and anaphylaxis management. Participants were also required to have a current First-Aid and CPR certificate and to complete the ASCIA anaphylaxis e-training for pharmacists. Face-to-face training was delivered using the same qualified trainer to ensure consistency in skill delivery. Pharmacists were asked to evaluate the training program at the completion of the course.

### RESULTS

157 pharmacists across Queensland completed the training. Participants rated the training highly on a 5-point likert scale (>4.4 for all fields) for relevance to practice, comfort with the skill, confidence to do the task and relevance of the learning objectives to the training. Qualitative feedback indicated that a key component of the training was the ability to practice injections on each other.

### CONCLUSION

The results indicated participants felt prepared for vaccination following completion of the training program. This was reflected in the high level of confidence reported. However, follow-up post-pilot will be required to see if this confidence was translated into practice during the implementation phase.